

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District  
85 East Baseline Road  
Rupert Idaho 83350  
208 436 4202

12 May 2022

McGregor Building Classroom

Meeting called to order 12:39

Conducting Vice Chairman Dusty Wilkins and then Chairman Brian Kossman, those in attendance were Dusty Wilkins, Melanie Nebaker, Trec Reed, Aaron Firth, Carolyn Firth, Reid Bowen, David Maybe, Brian Kossman, and Sharon Hardy

- Minutes of the March meeting were approved with a motion by Reid and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Aaron (note there was no meeting held in April)
- Bills and Financial Report the CD at 1<sup>st</sup> Fed is ready to renew, but the interest rate is really low. There was discussion about combining it with the one at D.L. Evans. Aaron motioned to close the CD and combine it with D.L. Evans, Reid 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion Sharon will keep the board apprized as to when this matter needs to be accomplished. Motion carried. Aaron then made a motion to pay the bills with a second from Brian, motion carried.

Brian then conducted the business portion of the meeting as follows.

- Scholarships there were 3 turned in all very qualified. Aaron made a motion to grant all three a scholarship of \$1000. Dusty second that motion. And it carried
- Tree sales they were all bagged and it seemed like it took a long time for them to get picked up this year. There is no financial report available on the tree sales yet.
- Stewardship award. After discussion and suggestions, it was decided that Dean Stevenson would be a good candidate, Aaron and Reid will gather information on him and provide that to Sharon for the Banquet and the newsletter.
- Ground Water Awareness fair. Held at the South-Central Health Department, the attendance was low as this was the first time of presenting this fair. But there a lot of agency people there and we did discuss abandoned wells. So, they are aware we are working on this project and will be seeking help
- We had two applications for Natural Resource Camp, ( this camp was not held for awhile due to the pandemic the past 2 years) A motion was made by Aaron and second by Reid to pay the full tuition for these two boys. Payson Suchan and Drew Neibaur to attend. Motion carried
- Budget for the next fiscal year was reviewed with suggested changes to presented again at the June Meeting
- Irrigation Management joint project wit amalgamated was presented, there is a tool to monitor fields for moisture and temperatures and basic growing conditions through the harvest and even storage of the produce. Throughout the project data will be gathered and provided to the growers (this will be beet growers only)The District would help purchase 50 of the pods to be placed in 10 fields the cost is \$500.00 each. The cost share is 25%. Dusty made a motion to present a grant and participate in the project, Reid Second- Motion carried (Aaron abstained as it was his idea, project and he is involved in it)
- Abandoned well project: Andrew Jensen has replaced Chris Johnson at IRWA, and is still working on info for DEQ, David will see if NRCS can help with some of the legalities. If we do there should be a moratorium on the possible fines. It was suggested that the project could provide a flat fee of \$100 per domestic well and possible up to \$5000 per irrigation well depending on grant monies received.
- NRCS – David state d that eh climate smart commodities project is open and he is learning about the funding for this and the Local Work Group. They would possibly like to combine it with the three districts board meeting day and hold it on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November
- ISWCC: Carolyn reported there are two projects she is submitting requesting funding through WQPA, One for Nalder and one for the Irrigation joint project with the Minidoka District and Amalgamated.
- TA2020 Melanie reported there are 3 high Tunnel contracts, a grazing project and 46 CRP of those CRP project 8 will expire next year.
- No Supervisor reports
- Admin, we just received notice of the Emergency Drought Declaration for the state and there could be some relief money available.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:45